

# Climate Action Leadership Team

## Working Group on Mitigation

Agenda: February 28, 2018

### 9:00am Welcome and Updates

- Suggestion: If we're listening to public input before our April meeting, can we aim for the evening of the 11<sup>th</sup>? ***That is current plan.***
  - Request: Asking CALT members to share any information about renewable energy/energy efficiency work by DOE in Alaska. Will be used to help decide whether or not GOA & LG should send letter similar to US Climate Alliance, requesting continued funding for DOE's renewables and energy efficiency programs.
- Short term action items – review of memo based on team member recommendations
  - Suggestion: We want to see bold action in the short term. Transitions aren't immediate, but they can be rapid. We want to think about "where do we want to be in 40 years?"
  - Suggestion: There's a desire that the Governor do something to show commitment to this effort. Maybe this is something we can do in April: find a mutually-beneficial and actionable item where we can get a commitment from this Administration. (Something that we can communicate sooner rather than later.) We would have to discuss this with the whole team first.
  - ***Continued discussion warranted to see long-term success***
- Update from DEC on GHG Emissions – North Slope emissions data point
  - Action: A few CALT members will pull together the technical advisory panel on oil & gas to address the issue of ongoing work and then option for reducing emissions. The panel will meet before the April meeting. Other members of the CALT will feed information to the group.
  - ***Need to bring state, CALT and O&G advisory panel's efforts together***

### 9:30am Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

- Meeting renewable energy and energy efficiency goals - policy
  - Develop list of options, including review of HB 106
  - Options for an impact analysis of Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) and Energy Efficiency Resource Standard (EERS)
    - Suggestion: Recommend to the Governor to do an impact analysis for economic and other impacts of RPS and EERS.
    - Suggestion: There has been a lot of previous work done on this issue. We could go review this work and communicate the ideas in a more accessible way
    - Suggestion: You can often promote energy efficiency for far less than installing renewables. I'd like to follow the example of other states and have a portfolio standard with money flowing back to state utilities. Would like to see recommendation that Railbelt utilities need to meet goal of 50% renewables in their portfolio. This would result in many smaller projects

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instead of one big one. Keep in mind that rural energy projects are a different animal. Focus on efficiency and incentivizing on the demand side, rather than the supply.

- Actions - development of work session to involve stakeholders, or produce white paper
  - Suggestions: Definition of “incentivize” – can be 1) information on how to make small energy efficiency changes and save money or 2) more complicated funding or policy measures to collect more capital. Need to consider all energy sectors, including space heating and transportation. We incentivize fossil fuels in lots of ways; need to do the same thing for clean energy.
- Meeting renewable energy and energy efficiency goals – financing
  - Options for renewables investment, including development of a Green Bank
    1. Action - development of work session on funding and/or produce a white paper
  - Past/existing programs: REF Grant Fund and Power Project Fund Program, Home Energy Rebate Program
  - Potential idea: Looking to create symbiotic relationships with private sector companies like Siemens. However, this requires us “throwing money in the pot”.
  - Suggestion Investigating the impacts and benefits of a system benefit charge (can be applied to more than just electrical utilities).
  - Suggestion: Review current financing mechanisms and engage AIDEA to harness their capacity to work on energy efficiency and renewables.
  - Potential resource: Existing report outlining how much money can be saved by carbon financing.
- Role of University, or other major stakeholders with contributing emissions or outreach/education role
  - Mission related to climate change, carbon neutral campuses
    - Suggestion: Field stations and science centers should be included. Together with the University, can be part of a large demonstration of commitment. It’s easier to make changes (“green” upgrades, etc) in these smaller institutions. Governor could call for more coordination/collaboration among science centers.
  - Suggestion: Would like the CALT to recommend to the Governor that he ask the Board of Regents to lead in tackling impacts on climate change and the energy transition. Needs to be specific – building efficiency for example, new buildings need to be renewable energy driven
  - Question: Should we be communicating these things to other municipalities and stakeholders? What is the team’s role?
  - Response: We should lead by example: Here is what the state is doing and we encourage other partners to join us.

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- Suggestions: We can also help to ensure that data is at the level that municipalities need. We can share any data the state has in terms of what are major cost-effective ways to increase efficiency.
- Suggestion: Railbelt utilities need to have a seat at the table.

10:15am

### Utility, Transportation and Extractive Industry Emissions

- North Slope Emissions – power production (based on DEC report)
  - Alternatives to current power production or what are options to reduce emissions?
    - Action: Oil/gas technical advisory group will meet on this before the April meeting.
      - ***Need to develop CALT agenda/scope***
    - Idea: Explore carbon capture and storage. This is part of the major scheme for major gas sales. Oil and gas advisory group can include this in preparation for April 12 discussions.
- Carbon Pricing – national and/or domestic
  - Options for carbon price and dividend or carbon tax; impact analysis
    - Action: Pull together a half-day workshop that brings in experts on how to drive the switch to renewables
    - Suggestion: Hear from a state or smaller jurisdiction with carbon pricing in place. Would be worthwhile to learn how it's working for them.
- Community emission tracking (based on DEC report) – Anchorage, Juneau, Fairbanks, Homer have established inventories
  - How do we increase the number of communities tracking emissions and/or what data is missing?
    - Suggestion: Inventory community inventories/action plans and highlight that these communities have taken this important step
    - Question: How do the state and municipality GHG inventories come together? Can we repackage to make it easier for other areas to implement? Are there tools out there for developing local inventories? Should perhaps check in with tribal organizations to see if they have any tools.
    - Response: Biggest challenge for inventory tracking is access to data and a methodology to synthesizing different data streams. Also, some tools (such as tracking fuel sales) don't apply to rural communities.
    - Idea: Getting data is difficult and asking communities to use additional tools is a burden. I'd ask that we pick a community size and not go below it and create an undue burden. If there were a few communities that had interest, they might serve as surrogates for other communities.
- Utilities – Railbelt Independent System Operator

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- Does this lead to increased use of renewables, increased efficiency, or emission reduction?
  - Suggestions: When doing a fair amount of work on the Railbelt for the Clean Power Plan, they found that they could not do much without a unified power system. This is why Alaska was exempt from the CPP. We could probably meet the CPP goals in Anchorage; add Fairbanks and then the problems start rising.
  - Action: Need to have further discussion on this to determine the issues related to climate, potential role of the CALT.

### **Oil, Gas and Coal Production**

- As a producer of oil, gas, and coal, and recognizing their downstream carbon emissions, how should the state of Alaska approach future development?
  - Response: We begin by acknowledging that our state economy is disproportionately dependent on fossil fuel extraction and is likely to remain so for the immediate future. We are equally cognizant of the need to diversify the economy and to transition to renewable energy. Our choices about future development must be made in the context of that transition, with the intention of furthering it, and with a recognition of growing urgency. Within that broad context, we can discuss timeframes and priorities that ensure resilience, sustainability, and diversity for our communities and state.
  - Response: It's about human progression. Natural resource development has allowed Alaskans to do great things, but we need to account for the future. We need to face the paradox transparently to usher in a better future, and we need to talk open and honestly about the timeline.
  - Suggestion/Response: Easier to add energy efficiency before renewables. Do we want to be leading the transition and taking advantage of the opportunities, or do we want to be left at the whims of those who are leading the transition? We can be leaders in this.
  - Suggestion: Social equity needs to be at the forefront of thinking and planning.
  - Action: This topic should be discussed with the entire CALT.
  - Suggestion: CALT include this in the end product

11:30am      Adjourn

Participants: Alice Edwards, Commissioner Hartig, Janet Weiss, Mike Levine, Luke Hopkins, Linda Behnken, Katie Conway, Lisa Busch, Mark Masteller, Nils Andreassen, Nikoosh Carlo, David Rogers, Danielle Meeker,

Public: Dorothy Childers